MANAGEMENT UNIT: KASHWITNA

MANAGEMENT INTENT

The Kashwitna Unit is intended for multiple use management emphasizing fish and wildlife habitat and forestry, and allowing grazing and small Hiking, snowmobiling, skiing, and other forms of recreation (including hunting and fishing) will also be encouraged. The unit is currently a heavily used hunting area as it is excellent spring and fall moose habitat and serves as a moose migration corridor between Hatcher Pass and the lowlands. The moose habitat value could be improved by forestry management since the timber stands are over-mature and need thinning. The Peters-Purches Creek Trail in the southeast corner of this unit is important for hunting access and other recreation use. Grazing is an important secondary use in the area. It could possibly serve to increase the habitat value by opening up the understory. (Potential conflicts between domestic stock and moose will be minimized through the grazing guidelines in Chapter III). To make grazing feasible, it is necessary to supply small farm sites in the southwest corner of the unit, which is predominately borough owned. The grazing, agriculture and forestry uses are dependent on the provision of access and would only occur after access is provided. Access would require a borough/state monetary commitment.

To illustrate land use designations, the area is divided into three subunits: north of Little Willow Creek; south of Little Willow Creek; and the southwest corner.

SUBUNIT A: NORTH OF LITTLE WILLOW CREEK

Primary Land Uses

Secondary Land Use

- Forestry
- Fish and Wildlife

- Recreation

MANAGEMENT GUIDELINES

Forestry

Management guidelines for forestry are specified in Chapter III, Forestry.

SUBUNIT B: SOUTH OF LITTLE WILLOW CREEK

Primary Land Uses

Secondary Land Uses

- Forestry

- Fish and Wildlife

- Grazing

- Recreation

MANAGEMENT GUIDELINES

Grazing

A Range Management Plan will be prepared by DNR prior to issuance of grazing permits or leases for this area. For an explanation of the Range Management Plan and other grazing policies and guidelines, see Chapter III, Goals, Policies, and Management Guidelines; Agriculture.

The Peters-Purches Creek Trail

See Chapter III, Policies and Management Guidelines; Trails.

SUBUNIT C: THE SOUTHWEST CORNER - AGRICULTURE

Primary Land Use

Secondary Land Uses

- Small Farm Agriculture

- Forestry

- Fish and Wildlife

- Grazing

MANAGEMENT GUIDELINES

Small Farm Agriculture and Secondary Uses

To the extent feasible class II and III soils in this subunit should be used for small farms. Forestry, grazing and public use of fish and wildlife resources should be encouraged to the extent compatible with agricultural use.

There will be no disposal of farmsteads prior to provision of adequate physical access into the management unit..

See also Chapter III, Goals, Policies, and Management Guidelines; Agriculture.

AREA-WIDE POLICIES AND MANAGEMENT GUIDELINES

Chapter III presents additional policies and land management guidelines which may be relevant to particular decisions in this management unit. Categories of these policies and guidelines are listed below for ease of reference:

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